REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 7, 2006. Claims 1-24 and 31 are presented for examination, of which Claims 1, 6, 11, 12, 16, 19, 20, 22 and 24 are in independent form. Claims 1-14, 12, 14, 20 and 21 have been amended as to matters of form; no change in scope is either intended or believed effected by at least these latter changes. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

As discussed in the August 22, 2006 Amendment, Applicants note that on the summary page of the outstanding Office Action, the Examiner marked box 12, acknowledging receipt of Applicants' claim for foreign priority, but did not explicitly acknowledge receipt of the required certified copy of the priority document. In fact, that certified copy was filed on January 25, 2002, and Applicants note that that filing is reflected in PAIR (see two pages printed out from PAIR attached to the August 22, 2006 Amendment). Accordingly, Applicants request that the Examiner indicate that the certified copy of the priority document has been received by checking the "All" box in paragraph 12(a) on the summary page of the next Office Action.

Claims 1-4, 12, 14, 20 and 21 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as indefinite. Without admitting to the correctness of this rejection, in an effort to further prosecution of this matter, Applicants have amended the rejected claims to replace the term "adapted to" with --for--. Applicants believe the rejection has been obviated and its withdrawal is, therefore, respectfully requested.

Claims 1-24 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,748,457 (Fallon et al.). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

Claim 1 is directed to an information processing apparatus for processing a data stream inputted via a network. The apparatus includes: (1) an input unit for inputting a data

stream via a network; (2) an analysis unit for analyzing the data stream inputted via the input unit; (3) a generation unit for, in accordance with an analysis result made by the analysis unit, interrupting input of the data stream performed by the input unit and generating an interrupted stream from the data stream; and (4) an interrupted-stream storage unit for storing the interrupted stream generated by the generation unit. In the analysis, at least one of a compression ratio, a signal-to-noise ratio, an amount of data, and a number of layers of said data stream is employed as an analysis condition.

Fallon relates to data storage controllers using lossless or lossy data compression and decompression. Fallon discusses a data compression system 110 that accepts data blocks in an input buffer. Data compression is performed by an encoder module 125, which successively receives as input each of the buffered input data blocks and outputs a corresponding set of encoded data blocks. Fallon also discusses that a buffer/counter module 130 is connected to the encoder module 125, and that a compression ratio module 135, connected to the output buffer/counter 130, determines the compression ratio obtained for each of the enabled encoders by taking the ratio of the size of the input data block to the size of the output data block stored in the corresponding buffer/counters. The compression ratio module 135 then compares each compression ratio with a predetermined compression ratio threshold limit. A description module 138 appends a corresponding compression type descriptor to each encoded data block selected for output. The encoded data block having the greatest compression ratio along with its corresponding data compression type descriptor is then output for subsequent data processing, storage or transmittal. If there are no encoded data blocks having a compression ratio exceeding the compression ratio threshold limit, then the original unencoded input data block is selected for output and null data compression type descriptor is appended thereto.

However, Applicants have found nothing in Fallon that would teach or suggest "a generation unit for, in accordance with an analysis result made by the analysis unit, interrupting input of the data stream performed by the input unit and generating an interrupted stream from the data stream" or "an interrupted-stream storage unit for storing the interrupted stream generated by the generation unit, wherein in said analysis, at least one of a compression ratio, a signal-to-noise ratio, an amount of data, and a number of layers of said data stream is employed as an analysis condition," as recited in Claim 1.

A review of the other art of record has failed to reveal anything which, in Applicants' opinion, would remedy the deficiencies of the art discussed above, as a reference against Claim 1.

Independent Claims 6, 11, 12, 16, 19, 20, 22 and 24 recite features the same or similar to those discussed above with respect to Claim 1 and, therefore, are also believed to be patentable over Fallong for the reasons discussed above.

The other claims in this application are each dependent from one or another of the independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed patentable for the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, the individual reconsideration of the patentability of each on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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